

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EB:JMDERHAM

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 265037

FOR DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY JULIUS L. KATZ

FOLLOWING REPEAT SAN JOSE 4701 ACTON SECSTATE 5 NOV 75

QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAN JOSE 4701

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, EPAP, CS

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INCREASE IN MEAT QUOTA

REF: STATE 257923

1. EMBASSY PASSED ON INFORMATION CONTAINED REFTTEL TO
OFFICIAL
F FOREIGN MINISTRY, WHO EXPRESSED GREEO
DISAPPOINTMENT THAT THERE WOULD APPEAR TO BE NO PROS-
PECTS FOR SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN COSTA RICAN MEAT
QUOTA THIS YEAR.

2. AS RAMATED SEPTTEL FOR AGATT (TOFAS 91) MEAT

INSPECTION OFFICE OF MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE CALCULATES
THAT COSTA RICA HAS NOW FULFILLED ITS QUOTA FOR MEAT
EXPORTS TO THE U.S. AND THEREFORE NO ADDITIONAL APPLI-
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CATIONS FOR EXPORT WPLL BE APPROVED. MINISTRY ACTION

WILL CAUSE A SHARP DECLINE IN CATTLE SLAUGHTER AND
SLAUGHTERHOUSE ACTIVITY WHICH IS LIKELY TO LEAD IN THE
VERY NEAR FUTURE TO SUBSTANTIAL CONTROVERSY OVER
VOLUNTARY RESTRAINT PROGRAM. STATISTICS PROVIDED
TO AGATT BY NATIONAL PRODUCTION COUNCIL STATES THAT
COSTA RICA HAS POTENTIAL SURPLUS AVAILABILITY OF
17 TO 21 MILLION ADDITIONAL POUNDS OF MEAT THIS YEAR,
OF WHICH SOME 12 MILLION POUNDS COULD BE SLAUGHTERED
AND EXPORTED IN TIME TO FALL WITHIN THIS YEAR'S QUOTA.

3. RE PARAGRAPH 2 OF REFTTEL, COSTA RICA HAS VERY
SUBSTANTIAL EXCESS PROCESSING CAPACITY FOR BEEF AND,
AS SUGGESTED ABOVE, COULD SLAUGHTER AND EXPORT AN
ADDITIONAL 10 TO 12 MILLION POUNDS THIS YEAR.

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